



Drought Information Statement for West Central & Southwest Florida

Valid October 27, 2023

Issued By: WFO Tampa Bay

Contact Information: sr-tbw.webmaster@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated by Nov 4, 2023 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/tbw/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.





U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for Florida

- Northern Levy county remains in D0.
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - D3 (Extreme Drought): along the coast from southwest Hillsborough county south through Manatee county into central Sarasota county.
 - D2 (Severe Drought): bounded the D3 area across much of Pinellas, southwestern Hillsborough, inland portions of Manatee and Sarasota counties
 - D1 (Moderate Drought): extends from western Pasco county to eastern Manatee and Sarasota counties, and south along the coast of Charlotte and Lee counties
 - D0: (Abnormally Dry): extends across Pasco and northeast Hillsborough counties, and a small area that bounds the remainder D1 region.

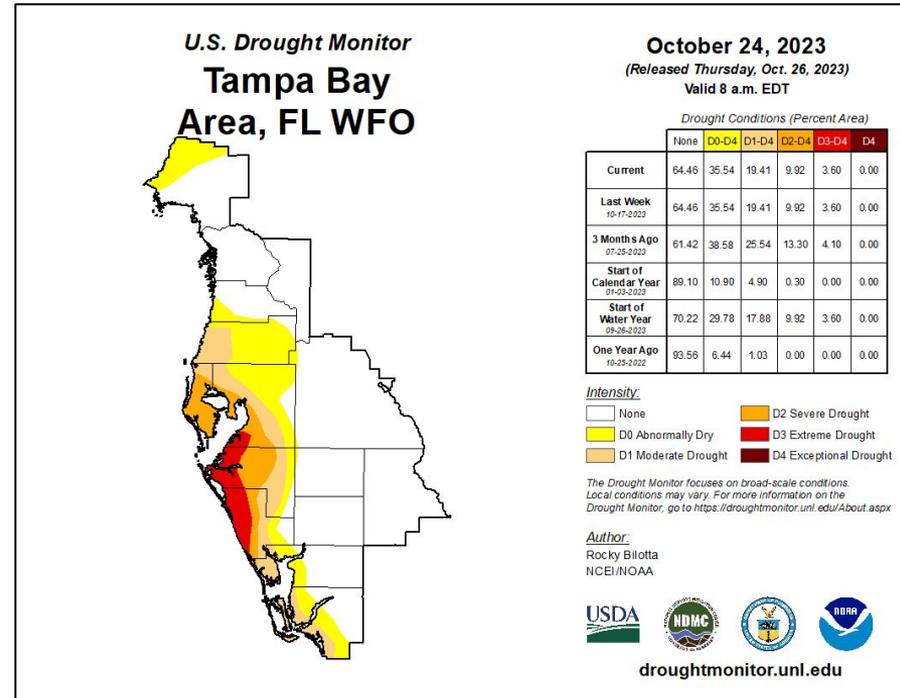


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid October 24th





Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for Florida

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - In the last month degradation has occurred across southern portions of the Nature Coast.
 - Areas near the coast from southwest Hillsborough southward through Manatee and Sarasota counties are continuing to see their Driest start to any year since records began.

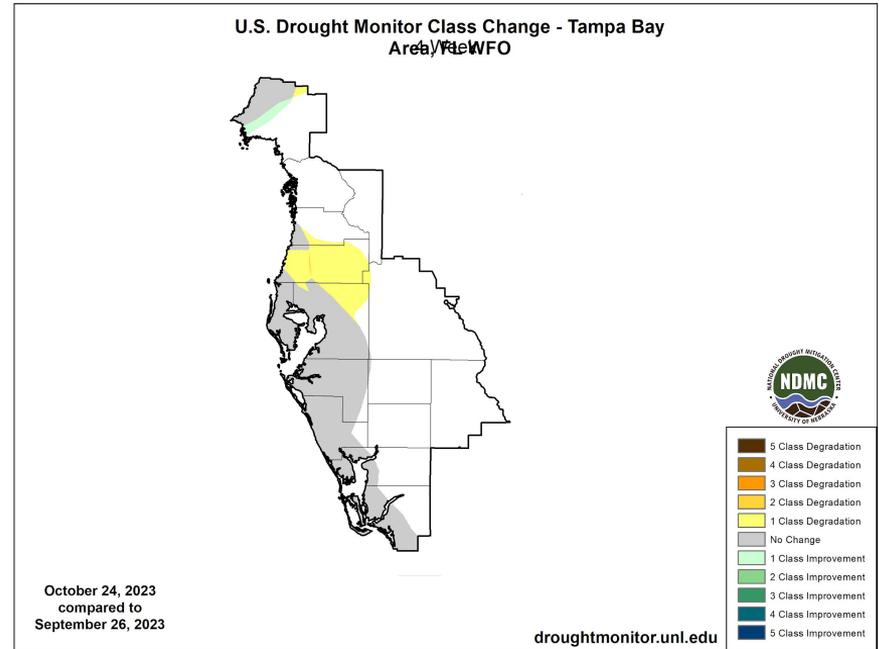


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 4-week change map valid October 24th





Precipitation

Table of Accumulated Rainfall (inches) for Select Locations - January 1 to October 26, 2023

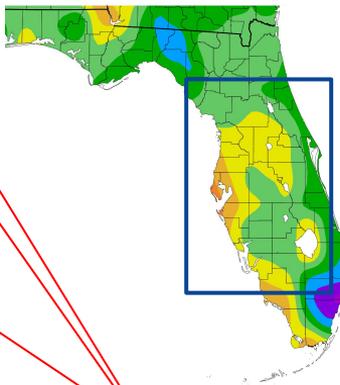
The following table gives the rainfall from January 1, 2023 to October 26, 2023:

Station	Site Id	Observed Rainfall	30 Yr Normal	Dep fm Normal	Percent of Normal
Tampa Area	TPA:	30.71	45.27	-14.56	68%
St Pete/Clearwater	PIE:	*26.45	48.74	-22.29	54
St Petersburg Area	SPG:	28.49	42.54	-14.05	67%
NWS Ruskin	TBW:	28.38	48.68	-20.30	58%
Winter Haven Area	GIF:	41.63	41.71	-0.08	100
Sarasota-Bradenton Area	SRQ:	22.84	44.60	-21.76	51%
Fort Myers/Page Field	FMY:	**41.87	53.36	-11.49	78
Fort Myers/SW Intl Apt	RSW:	39.95	49.52	-9.57	81%
Chiefland 5 SE	CHIF1:	42.11	51.26	-9.15	82%
Plant City	PLCF1:	45.40	51.51	-6.11	88
Lakeland	LLDF1:	44.80	51.87	-7.07	86%
Bradenton 5 ESE	BRAF1:	39.64	51.88	-12.24	76%
Venice	VNCF1:	25.11	47.03	-21.92	53%
Archbold Bio Stn	ACHF1:	55.84	50.06	+5.78	112%

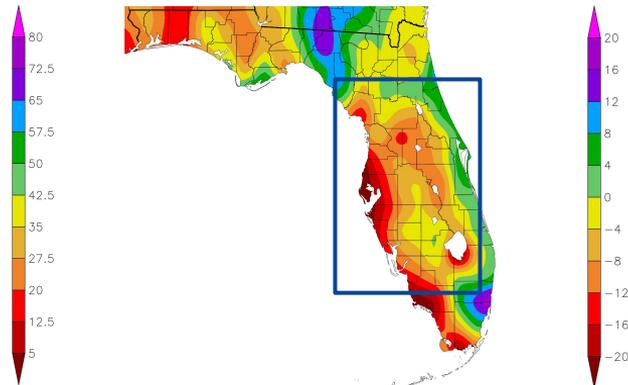
*Rainfall missing on August 20, 2023. Radar estimate of 0.50 inches included in this total

**Rainfall missing on June 2, 2023. Radar estimate of 1.90 inches included in this total

Precipitation (in)
1/1/2023 - 10/26/2023



Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
1/1/2023 - 10/26/2023



NWS Ruskin, Sarasota-Bradenton Area and Venice are continuing to have their Driest Year-to-Date!

The following table gives the rainfall from January 1, 2023 to September 30, 2023:

Station	Site Id	Observed Rainfall	30 Yr Normal	Dep fm Normal	Percent of Normal
Inverness 3 SE	INV1:	36.23	45.16	-8.93	80%
St Leo	STLF1:	36.83	46.01	-9.18	80%
Bartow	BARF1:	41.50	44.20	-2.70	94%
Mountain Lake	LWLF1:	38.71	45.25	-6.54	86%
Myakka RIVER St Pk	MKCF1:	42.27	53.35	-11.08	79%
Wauchula 2 N	WAUF1:	37.36	44.82	-7.46	83%
Desoto City 8 SW	DSOF1:	52.80	45.33	+7.47	116%

Image Captions:

Left - Precipitation Amount for Florida

Right - Departure from Normal Precipitation for Florida

Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.

Data for 2023 ending October 26, 2023





Summary of Impacts

Links: See/submit [Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#) and view the [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

Hydrologic Impacts

- Generally less than a tenth of an inch of rain fell during the past week across west central and southwest Florida which is much below normal. Rivers across the region fell significantly but are still running near climatological normals south of I-4, but are generally in the lowest 15th percentile north of I-4.

Agricultural Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time

Fire Hazard Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time

Mitigation Actions

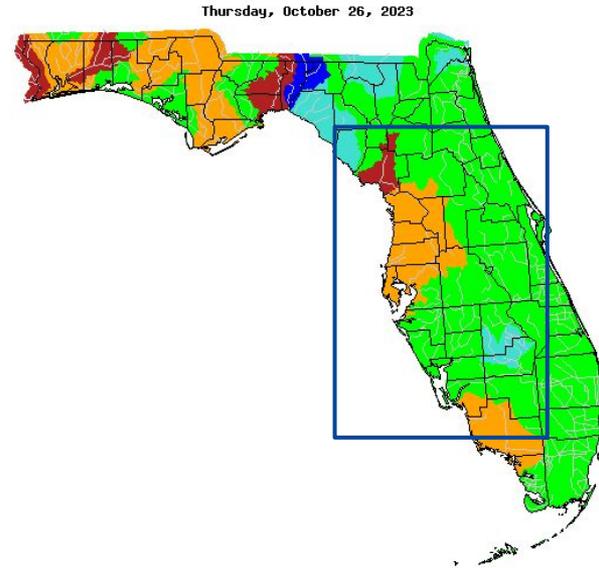
- Water conservation techniques are strongly encouraged in drought areas. Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information. Local water restriction ordinances may be in place.





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Very little rain fell over the past week which has caused rivers/streams to fall across the region. Most rivers north of I-4 are running in the lowest 15th percentile, and are running near climatological normal south of I-4.



Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid October 26, 2023





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Below normal rainfall is expected during the next seven days with rainfall totals generally less than a tenth of an inch.

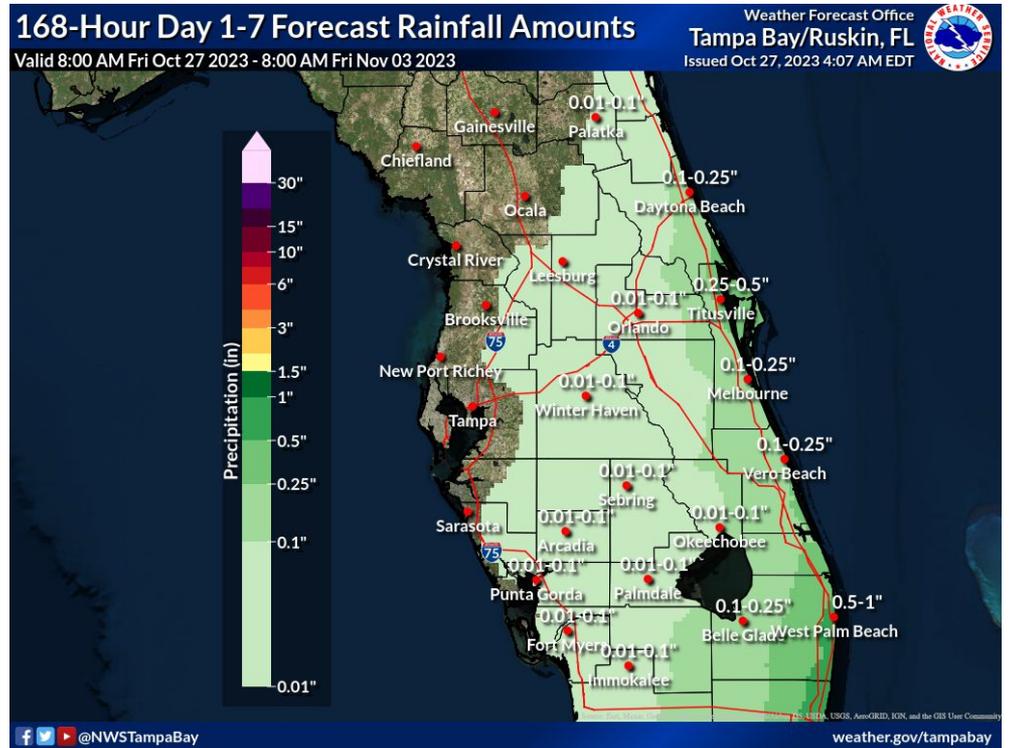


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid 8 AM EDT Friday October 27 to 8 AM EDT Friday November 3.



Long-Range Monthly Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Above normal temperatures and precipitation are favored for the Florida peninsula for the month of November.

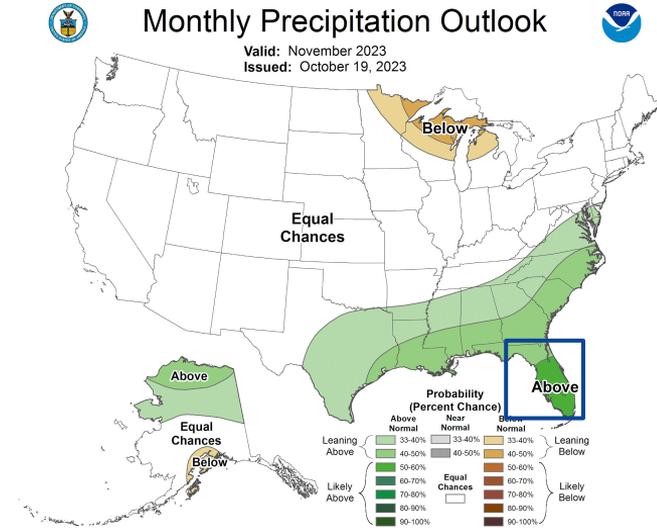
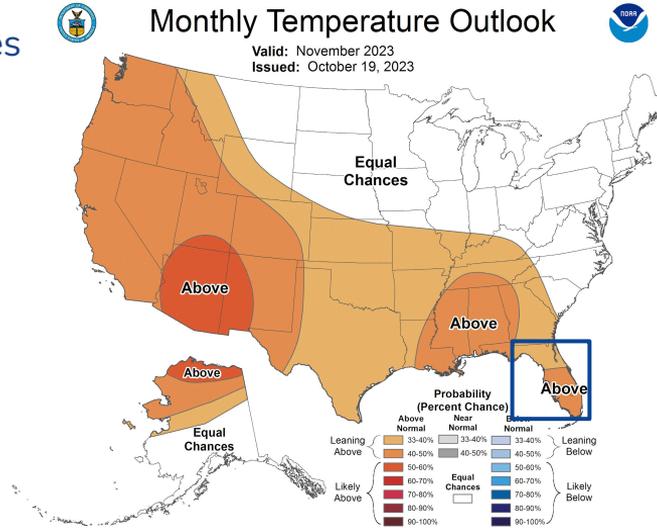


Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Temperature Outlook](#),

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Precipitation Outlook](#).

Valid November 2023





Long-Range Seasonal Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Equal chances of above, below, and near normal temperatures are forecast for November through January.
- Above normal precipitation is favored during November through January.

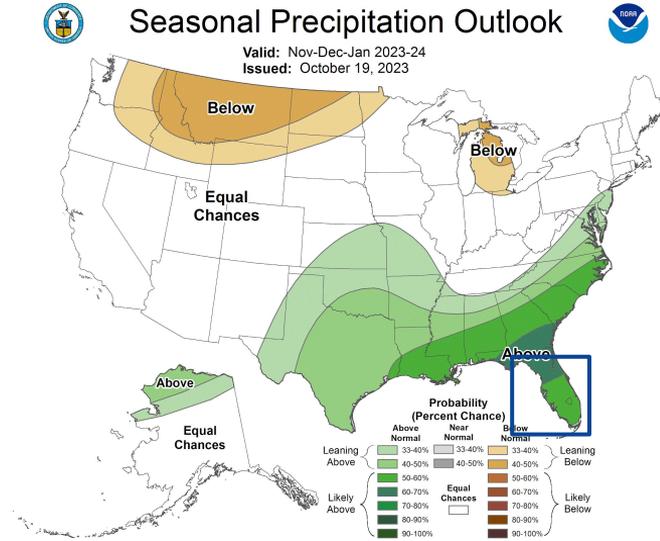
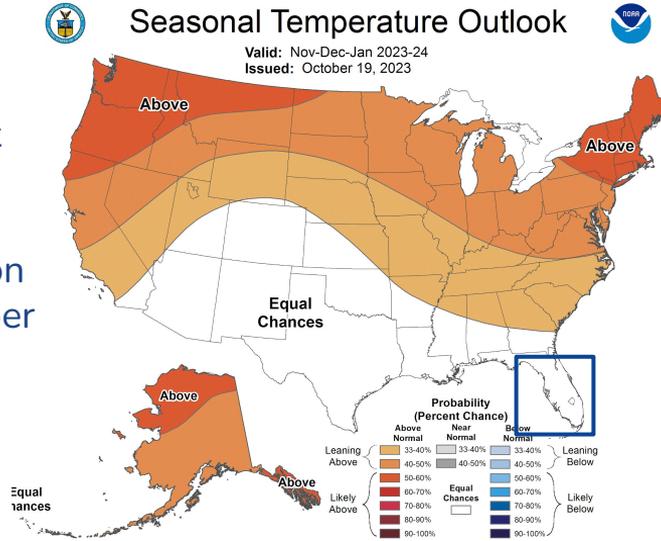


Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Temperature Outlook](#).

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Precipitation Outlook](#).

Valid November 2023 - January 2024





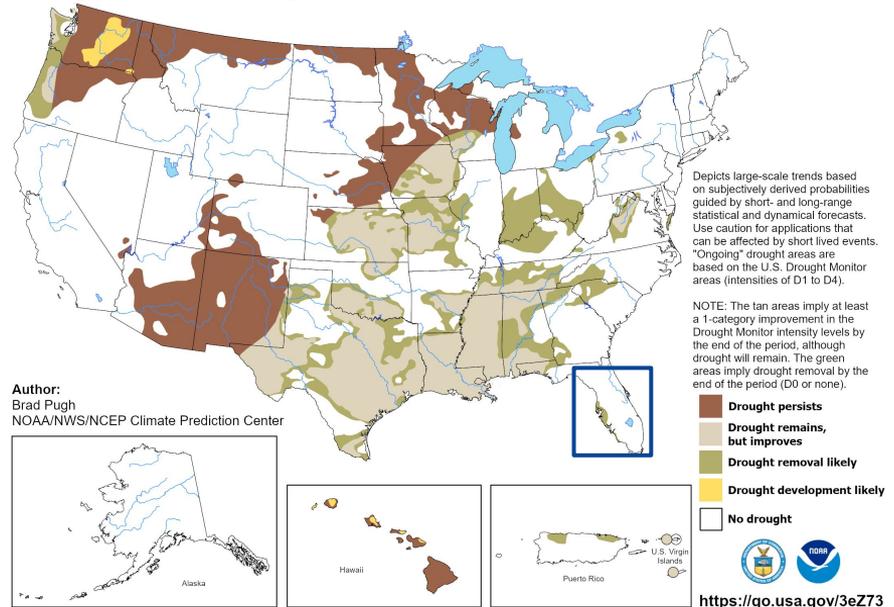
Drought Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Some improvement in the drought conditions is expected as we move through Autumn and into Winter.

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for October 19, 2023 - January 31, 2024
Released October 19, 2023



Links to the latest:

- [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)
- [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook
Released October 19, 2023 valid for October 19, 2023 - January 31, 2024

